

APPLICANT(S): LIBERMAN, Boris
SERIAL NO.: 09/935,687
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REMARKS

The present response is intended to be fully responsive to all points of objection and/or rejection raised by the Examiner and is believed to place the application in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the application is respectfully requested.

Applicants assert that the present invention is new, non-obvious and useful. Prompt consideration and allowance of the claims is respectfully requested.

Status of Claims

Claims 1 - 10 are pending in the application. Claims 1-10 have been rejected. Claims 1 - 7 have been amended. New claim 11 - 12 have been added in order to further define what the Applicant considers to be the invention. Applicant respectfully asserts that no new matter has been added.

Claims 8 - 10 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. In making this cancellation without prejudice, Applicants reserve all rights in these claims to file divisional and/or continuation patent applications.

Remarks to the Drawings

In the Office Action, the Examiner objected to Drawings 3a, 4a - 4b and requested that the Figures be designated by a legend such as --Prior Art--. Figs. 3a, 4a-4b have been amended by adding the legend --Prior Art--. The entire drawing sheets containing the corrected drawings are enclosed for review by the Examiner.

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Remarks to the Specification

In the Office Action, the Examiner objected to the Specification and requested to correct several informalities. Accordingly, the specification has been amended and therefore the objections to the Specification should be withdrawn.

CLAIM REJECTIONS

35 U.S.C. § 112 Rejections

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 4 - 5 under 35 U.S.C. § 112 for lack of antecedent basis. Claims 4 and 5 have been amended.

Applicant respectfully asserts that these amendments render claims 4 - 5 proper under 35 USC 112 and requests that the rejections be withdrawn.

35 U.S.C. § 102 Rejections

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1 - 2 and 6 - 10 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a), as being anticipated by Keller et al (US Patent No. 6,204,871).

Claims 8 - 10 have been amended and therefore the rejection to these claims is now moot.

Independent claim 1 has been amended.

Amended claim 1 recites: "*a static support structure*" and "*elongated support units, ... wherein said units positioned remote from and substantially parallel to each other such that top surfaces of said units delineate a convex profile in a plane perpendicular to a longitudinal axis of said units*"

As is well established, in order to successfully assert a *prima facie* case of anticipation, the Examiner must provide a single prior art document that includes every element and limitation of the claim or claims being rejected.

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Keller does not teach, either expressly or inherently, all the elements of amended claim. Keller does not disclose at least "a static support structure" as recited in amended claim 1.

Accordingly, applicant respectfully submits that claim 1 is allowable and requests that the rejection to this claim be withdrawn.

Claims 2, 6 and 7 are dependent, directly or indirectly, from claim 1 and include all the limitations of this claim. Therefore, the patentability of claims 2, 6 and 7 follows directly from the patentability of claim 1. Therefore, applicant respectfully asserts that claims 2, 6 and 7 are likewise allowable and requests that the rejection of claims 2, 6 and 7 be withdrawn.

35 U.S.C. § 103 Rejections

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claim 3 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as being unpatentable over Keller et al (US Patent No. 6,204,871).

As discussed above with respect to the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a), claim 1 is believed to be allowable. Claim 3 is dependent from claim 1 and includes all the limitations of this claim. Therefore, the patentability of claim 3 follows directly from the patentability of claim 1. Therefore, applicant respectfully asserts that claim 3 is likewise allowable and requests that the rejection of claim 3 be withdrawn.

New Claims

New claims 11 and 12, dependent from claim 1, have been added. As discussed above with respect to the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a), claim 1 is believed to be allowable. Therefore, the patentability of claims 11 and 12 follows directly from the patentability of claim 1.

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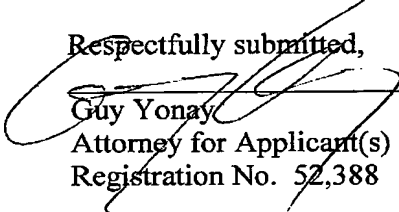
CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the pending claims are deemed to be allowable. Their favorable reconsideration and allowance is respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner have any question or comment as to the form, content or entry of this Amendment, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number below. Similarly, if there are any further issues yet to be resolved to advance the prosecution of this application to issue, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned counsel.

Please charge any fees associated with this paper to deposit account No. 50-3355.

Respectfully submitted,



Guy Yonay
Attorney for Applicant(s)
Registration No. 52,388

Dated: 22-Jun-2005

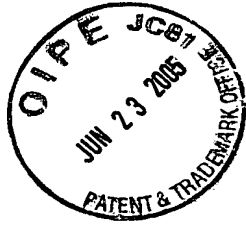
Pearl Cohen Zedek Latzer, LLP
10 Rockefeller Plaza, Suite 1001
New York, New York 10020
Tel: (212) 632-3480
Fax: (212) 632-3489

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AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

The attached sheets of drawings include changes to Fig. 3a and 4a-4b. These sheets, which include Fig. 3a, a-4b, replace the original sheets including Fig. 3a, 4a-4b.

Attachment: 2 Replacement Sheets



APPENDIX